

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Xpplicant

Pomarede et al.

Appl. No.

10/074,722

Filed

February 11, 2002

For

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Examiner

Pompey, Ron Everett

Group Art Unit 2812

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202, on

April 8, 2003

(Date)

Joseph J. Mallon, Reg. No. 39,287

AMENDMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Applicants have received the Office Action mailed February 14, 2003. Claims 1-39 are pending in this application. Since this response is being transmitted to the Office on April 8, 2003, this response is timely filed.

Applicants understand that the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121(a), (b), (c) and (d) have been **waived** for amendments to the claims, specification and drawings, and that all applicants may now submit amendments using a Revised Format. See Pre-OG Notice entitled "Amendments in a Revised Format Now Permitted," signed January 31, 2003. Accordingly, this Amendment is submitted in the Revised Format, as set forth in the aforementioned Pre-OG Notice.

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